

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1881.

AMUSEMENTS TO-DAY.

Abbey's Park Theatre—From the American Academy of Design—Exhibition.
Aquarium—Circus, Matinee.
Bijou Opera House—New Interiors.
Bonwit's Museum—Fancy and Silk.
Baldy's Theatre—New and Pure.
Grand Opera House—Rosalie.
Hawley's Little St. Theatre—The Gothic Stage, Comedy & Vaudeville.
Hercules Hall—Theatrical Review.
Koster & Bial's Concert Hall—Classical, Military, Masonic, Square, Musical, etc.
Masonic Temple—Matinee.
Metropolitan Opera House—Boulevard and Fifth.
Theatre Carcano—Musical Comedy.
Tony Pastor's Theatre—Variety.
Union Square Theatre—The Gothic Stage.
Watertown Theatre—Where the Cat.
Windsor Theatre—John Jay.

HIGHLY APPROPRIATE.

It is announced that Mr. JOHN KELLY has engaged rooms at Willard's, and will be present at the inauguration of GARFIELD.

Why not?

Mr. KELLY defeated the Democratic party, and elected the Republican candidate.

By all means ought he to be present and participate in the inauguration of a man who owes his success to the discards in the Democratic ranks fomented by Mr. KELLY himself.

AT LAST.

After the failure of the Freedman's Bank in 1873, a Republican Congress created a commission of three persons, with a salary of \$3,000 a year each, to close up the affairs of that institution, which had been brought to bankruptcy by the robbery of Republican Rings. That was in 1874. Two of these Commissioners never pretended to do any duty but to sign their names to the reports and papers of the third, who did whatever work was to be done, and received \$500 per annum from each of his colleagues.

Thus five thousand dollars every year were taken away in salary, without any form of equivalent, from the remaining assets of the broken bank, to put in the pockets of two pet Republican Commissioners. And, in addition to this scandalous plunder of the defrauded depositors, outrageous fees were allowed to other Republican favorites, until three hundred and forty thousand dollars have been consumed in expenses and charges since the act of June, 1874, was passed.

After nearly seven years of this harsh experience, a Democratic Congress abolished the Commission, and turned the affairs of the bank over to the Comptroller of the Currency, with an allowance of \$1,000 for special pay, instead of \$3,000, heretofore paid to the three Commissioners.

This Freedman's Bank is one of the darkest stains on the whole career of the Republican party. As originally chartered, it required the trustees to make all investments in bonds of the United States, for the protection of the depositors. When the deposits became large from the earnings of more than sixty thousand men, women, and children, fresh from slavery and ignorant of the methods of banking, the chiefs of the Washington Ring and other Republican thieves cast envious eyes upon this fund.

They professed the utmost friendship for the colored brother, and they were the loudest champions of a "broader humanity." A Republican Congress amended the charter so as to destroy the security which it afforded, and authorized the trustees to loan money out on mortgage of real estate. This opened the door to the monstrous frauds that followed under the philanthropic care of Gen. O. H. HOWARD, HENRY D. COOKE, and other noted Republicans. It took only a short time to fill the vaults with worthless scrip, with notes that could only be sold for waste paper, and with fraudulent transactions that should have sent the trustees and their confederates to the penitentiary. But nothing was done with them, and these swindlers are now all GARFIELD shooles.

A BLACK EYE FOR MR. BLAINE.

The Premier of the next Cabinet, as the friends of Mr. BLAINE delight to call him, introduced a bill in the Senate a fortnight ago, intended for the special benefit of JOHN ROACH, in these words:

"Be it enacted, etc., that the owners of American steamships 3,000 tons register and upward shall be entitled to receive for carrying the United States mail on regular lines of such steamships from any port or ports in the United States to any foreign port, ports, mail companies not exceeding \$30 per nautical mile per annum for the first 100 miles, and \$10 per nautical mile for the next eight trips per annum. The contracts to be made to the Postmaster-General for a term of fifteen years."

True, the name of JOHN ROACH does not appear in this bill, but, as he alone was subject to the other to the prescribed conditions, it might as well have been inserted. The ostrich does not conceal its body by hiding its head in the sand. Mr. BLAINE thus distinctly committed, as far as his authority could go, the new Administration to the policy of subsidies, and to a monopoly in steamships.

The Post Office Committee of the Senate adopted Mr. BLAINE's project substantially, and proposed it as an amendment to the bill for that department. Southern Senators, committed by all their political traditions against subsidies, but carried away by the prospect of sharing in the spoils, were active advocates of this barefaced job, which has been relentlessly pressed on Congress by a large lobby.

They had before them the experience of the Garrison line for ten years, between New York and Rio de Janeiro; they had the record of the Pacific Mail scandal, with nearly a million paid out for votes in Congress; and they had the failures of conspicuous experiments, like the Colling line to guide a discreet judgment. But these lessons had no weight, against a preconceived purpose.

The advocates of this measure proposed to the Senate the other day may well be described as extraordinary in character and conduct. Here are his exact words:

"I am sure, from the examination you have just made, that the question of whether to obstruct or to permit the extension of the coastwise or interoceanic mail service is not likely to prove in future dangerous in practice, and whether an legislation or declaration of opinion on the subject is desirable."

The resolution which Mr. HOAR presented to the Senate the other day may well be described as extraordinary in character and conduct. Here are his exact words:

"I am sure, from the examination you have just made, that the question of whether to obstruct or to permit the extension of the coastwise or interoceanic mail service is not likely to prove in future dangerous in practice, and whether an legislation or declaration of opinion on the subject is desirable."

Mr. CONKLING was conveniently absent when the vote was taken, and he was not present. As a friend of subsidies and the representative of free ships, the Senator found himself in a closer corner; but he managed to get out of it. And this hasty retreat enabled him to say that he was not antagonizing Mr. BLAINE.

LET THE JURY BOX ALONE.

We are glad to see that the specious assault upon the right of trial by jury attempted in the New Jersey Legislature is likely to damage nobody except the authors of the project.

WE HAVE BEEN EXPERIENCING OF LATE A SHORTAGE OF WATER. People have been put to great inconvenience, and their health has been endangered, because the water could not be drawn above the lower stories of their houses. Drain pipes and traps have become dry, and poisonous sewer gases have permeated both elegant dwellings and the tenements of the poor. Instead of being encouraged to make the liberal use of Croton which cleanliness and health require, the inhabitants of the city have been warned by the Commissioner of Public Works that they must be careful of it, lest necessity arise for further reduction of the pressure.

The February thaw will, however, soon give us all the water that can be got through the aqueduct. Croton Lake will be full, and more water will be pouring over the dam than can pass into the aqueduct. All fears of a water famine can therefore be dismissed.

The administration attributed to Lord Bute a

dangerous misapprehension of the Transvaal

and the Boers.

THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER GUARDED IN THE TAILOR'S.

THE ASSISTANT COM